

CACHE RIVER

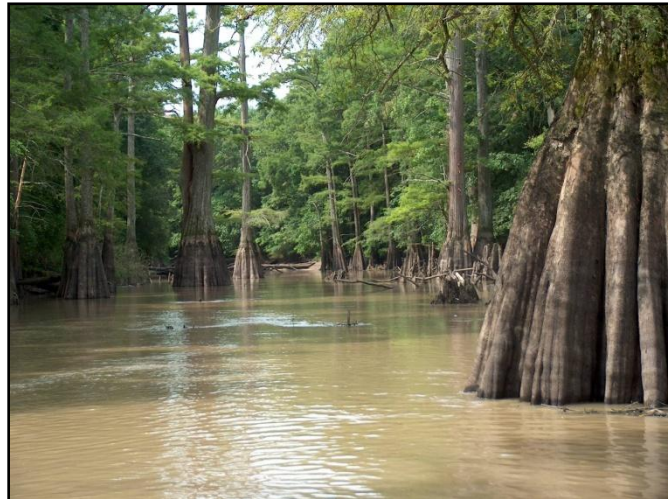
ARKANSAS

Project Name: Cache River Restoration

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Education (Interpretation)
- Large Landscapes ("Big Woods")
- Recreation (National Wildlife Refuges, Boating and Wildlife)
- Restoration (Stream and Riparian)

Project Description: The White River/Cache River Complex is a 550,000-acre bottomland hardwood forest, the largest in the Mississippi Alluvial Valley, located in Arkansas. This area includes the White River National Wildlife Refuge and the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge along with several State Wildlife Management Areas, such as the Cache River Natural Area (CRNA). The 937-acre CRNA contains outstanding examples of cypress-tupelo swamp and willow-oak forest, with some cypress trees estimated to be over 1000 years old. In addition, over 200,000 acres of the Cache and Lower White Rivers are included in the Ramsar Convention's List of Wetlands of International Importance.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will restore the stream along 3 meanders, which will have direct benefits for fish, mussels, and wildlife on over 4.6 miles of historic river channel and will increase accessibility for boating, fishing, hunting, and wildlife observation opportunities on both the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge and privately-owned lands. The Natural Resources Conservation Service is investing significant Federal dollars to reforest private lands within the project area. This includes more than 20,000 acres that will be reforested within the next 10 years through cooperative projects between Federal, State, non-governmental organizations, and private landowners. As the Cache River and surrounding landscape are restored, the landscape will be managed to benefit water quality, aquatic and wetland ecosystems, wildlife, local communities, and the public.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- City of Clarendon, Arkansas
- Cache River/Bayou DeView Improvement District
- The Nature Conservancy
- Craig Campbell (The Stephens Group)

Outcomes for 2012:

- Begin stream restoration that is scheduled to be completed in 2013